AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of identifying a candidate retinoblastoma (RB) pathway modulating agent, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a first assay system comprising a Chaperonin containing T complex 1 subunit 6[[A]] (CCT6) polypeptide or nucleic acid;

(b) contacting the first assay system with a test agent;

(c) determining the expression or activity of the CCT6 polypeptide or nucleic acid in the first assay system in the presence or absence of the test agent of step (b), wherein a change in the expression or activity of CCT6 polypeptide or nucleic acid in the presence of said test agent identifies the test agent as a candidate RB pathway modulating agent;

(d) confirming that the test agent of (b) is a candidate RB pathway modulating agent by providing a second assay system comprising a CCT6 polypeptide or nucleic acid, wherein the second assay system is able to measure the RB pathway;

(e) contacting the second assay system with the test agent of step (b); and

(f) measuring the RB pathway in the second assay system in the presence or absence of the test agent of step (b), wherein a change in the RB pathway in the presence of said test agent confirms the test agent as a candidate RB pathway modulating agent.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first assay system comprises cultured cells that express the CCT6 polypeptide.

3. (Previously prevented) The method of claim 2, wherein the cultured cells

additionally have defective RB function.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first assay system includes a screening assay comprising a CCT6 polypeptide, and the candidate test agent is a small molecule modulator.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the assay is a binding assay.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the second assay system is selected from the group consisting of an apoptosis assay system, a cell proliferation assay system, an angiogenesis assay system, and a hypoxic induction assay system.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first assay system includes a binding assay comprising a CCT6 polypeptide and the candidate test agent is an antibody.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the first assay system includes an expression assay comprising a CCT6 nucleic acid and the candidate test agent is a nucleic acid modulator.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the nucleic acid modulator is an antisense oligomer.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein the nucleic acid modulator is a phosphothioate morpholino oligomer (PMO).

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising:

(g) administering the candidate RB pathway modulating agent identified in step (c) to a model system comprising cells defective in RB function and detecting a phenotypic change in the model system that indicates that the RB function is restored.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the model system is a mouse model with defective RB function.

13. -16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second assay system comprises cultured cells.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second assay system comprises a non-human animal.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the non-human animal mis-expresses a RB pathway gene.

20. -25. (Canceled)

26. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the nucleic acid modulator is a dsRNA or siRNA.